

April is Cancer Control Month

Cancer survival rates are increasing, with approximately 10 million survivors in the United States. New understanding of diseases, better diagnostic tools, and innovative treatments help provide hope and healing to those who have been diagnosed with cancer. Cancer patients are living longer and fuller lives.

Despite these advances, cancer is still the second leading cause of death in our country, and some cancers, such as breast, prostate, lung, leukemia and melanoma, continue to be too prevalent.

As we observe Cancer Control Month, I commend the strength and courage of cancer survivors, whose perseverance is an inspiration to all Americans. Our nation is grateful for the generosity and skill of our medical professionals. These healers, along with the loving family members and friends of cancer patients, reflect the compassionate spirit of our people and help build a healthier future for our citizens. Cancer can be prevented, treated, and defeated, and we will continue to strive to reach the day when the battle to beat cancer has been won.

—President George W. Bush

In 1938, the U.S. Congress passed a resolution requesting the President to issue an annual proclamation declaring April as “Cancer Control Month.”